

Urban District of Tettenhall

(STAFFORDSHIRE)



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for 1964

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TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor Dr. S. C. Dyke.

Councillor E. G. L. Pearce, J.P., C.C.
(Chairman of the Council).

„ Mrs. E. Bate.

„ Mrs. V. M. Rhodes.

„ C. Morris.

„ S. O. Morton.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS
of the
LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health :

(Acting)

F. B. MACKENZIE, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

E. BARNES, M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

P. N. B. HUBBALL

(Appointed—April, 1964)

Clerical :

Miss S. M. BOUSFIELD

Official Address and Telephone No. of the Medical Officer of Health :

Council Offices, Upper Green, Tettenhall, Staffs.

Wolverhampton 52081-2-3

Private Telephone No. : Wolverhampton 37320.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1964

Area : 2,503 acres.

Population : Estimated Mid-Year—15,620.

Number of Domestic Properties : 4,965.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £2,292.

Rateable value : £572,779.

General Rate : 9s. 6d.

Birth Rate : 11.13.

England Wales : 18.4.

Death Rate : 8.77.

England Wales : 11.3.

Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births : 34.48

England Wales : 20.0.

Tuberculosis Death Rate—Pulmonary : Nil.

Tuberculosis Death Rate—Non-Pulmonary : Nil.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1964

Tettenhall Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1964. Incorporated in it, is that of your Public Health Inspector.

The report deals with Public Health subjects in sections as follows :—

- (a) Vital statistics affecting the Urban District.
- (b) General Provision of Health Services.
- (c) Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.
- (d) Tuberculosis.
- (e) Housing.
- (f) Sanitary Circumstances of the district.
- (g) Report of your Public Health Inspector on those matters which fall within his sphere of activities.

The implementing of new legislation continues to add to your Public Health Inspector's work and as he is your sole inspector this can militate against the time available for routine inspection work and investigation of complaints brought to his notice from time to time.

Such new legislation introduced in the course of the year were the Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act and Compulsory Improvement Areas under the Housing Act, 1964.

Nevertheless, your Inspector has continued to give intensive attention to Food Hygiene and to Meat Inspection, two duties which must not be neglected however great the demands on his time may be.

The presence of a Pupil-Inspector in the advanced stage of his training is a great asset in the office and can relieve the chief inspector of much of the less responsible demands on his time.

The population of the urban district as estimated mid-year 1964 by the Registrar-General is given as 15,620, an increase of 90 on last year. (Census 1961—14,867.)

The crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 11.13 giving a standardised birth rate of 11.59, the rate for England and Wales being 18.4.

The crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 8.77 giving a standardised death rate of 10.87, the rate for England and Wales being 11.3.

Out of a total of 137 deaths (males 66, females 71) 84 occurred over 65 years of age (males 35, females 51) which are distributed as follows :—

<i>Age</i>			<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>
65—70 .. ..	..	..	11	..	8
71—75 .. ..	..	..	4	..	9
76—80 .. ..	..	..	7	..	7
81—85 .. ..	..	..	5	..	13
86—90 .. ..	..	..	6	..	8
91—95 .. ..	..	..	—	..	5
96—100 .. ..	..	..	—	..	1
			<hr/>		
			33	..	51
			<hr/>		
Total .. ..	..	..	..	84	
			<hr/>		

Heart disease, vascular lesions of the nervous system, cancer and respiratory disease continue to be the predominating causes of adult death. In respect of heart disease there were 32 deaths of which 19 were coronary disease (10 male, 9 female).

Deaths from cancer all forms were 25 (14 males, 11 females) as against 30 last year.

Deaths from cancer of lung and bronchus were 5, same as last year. Ages at death were between 45 and 65, all males.

No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

There has been an unwelcome jump in the district Infantile Mortality rate, 34.48 per thousand live births against 20.3 last year.

Numerically the jump is not so great, 6 deaths against 4 last year. That two more deaths should show such a marked rise in the Mortality rate figure is occasioned arithmetically by the fact that there were fewer births, 174 against 197 last year and the rate is calculated in relation to live births. So on the face of it two more deaths with a decrease in the number of births this year, would appear to increase the Mortality rate abnormally.

It would, therefore, be preferable when making comparisons from year to year in a small community such as Tettenhall to base comparisons on actual numbers of deaths rather than rates.

From the causes of death, it might be said that in two cases, death was not unexpected. Taking that into consideration a more reassuring and welcome rate would be recorded; but, of course, all causes have been included in arriving at the rate for the country as a whole.

There may have been contributing factors of which I am not aware, for example, the parental stock and history, consanguinity, the age of the parents, the parity of the mother and concomitant diseases, toxic conditions, or ill-health during pregnancy.

With the exception of Whooping Cough the incidence of infectious disease has been low in the district.

Again there have been no cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria.

In respect of diphtheria, this once dread disease has responded so well to immunisation measures that it is now a clinical rarity.

As regards poliomyelitis, with the acceptance of immunisation now available, the incidence of this disease can at least be much reduced and perhaps the same position as in diphtheria eventually reached.

There were no deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis but in respect of this disease three new cases were notified as against two last year. Further to this, three more cases were added to the register as inward transfers from other or neighbouring districts.

In respect of the general sanitary conditions of the district they are satisfactory.

More detailed information is given in the section of the report furnished by your inspector.

I convey my thanks to the Chairman and Members of your Health Committee for their support throughout the year and commend their watchfulness as to the sanitary conditions of your urban district.

As much ill-health can result from unsatisfactory and adverse housing conditions I am also appreciative of the consideration given by your Housing Committee to cases I have referred to them on medical grounds.

I thank the local practitioners for their continued co-operation and the Chest Physicians and Directors of the Public Health Laboratory Service and Mass Radiography Unit for their reports.

I record my appreciation of the efficient services of your Public Health Inspector throughout the year.

I am glad to have this yearly opportunity of thanking your Clerk for advice on points which have arisen from time to time. I am also indebted to your Surveyor and Housing Manager for their co-operation, and to all other colleagues, administrative and clerical.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. B. MACKENZIE,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1964.

VITAL STATISTICS

					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births	..	..	..	..	78	96	174
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	72	92	164
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	6	4	10
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.13
Standardised Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.59
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.75
Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.36
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	176
Infant Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	34.48
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	36.59
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Neo-Natal (under four weeks) Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.99
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.24
Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	28.75
Maternal Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths	..	..	..	..	66	71	137
Death Rate (Crude)	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.77
Standardised Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.87
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1964

							M.	F.
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	..				—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus		..	..				5	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	..	..	..	..			—	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms				..			9	4
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	..			—	1
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	..		..	..			14	14
Coronary Disease, Angina	..	..	..	..			10	9
Other Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..		4	9
Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	..	..			2	—
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System				..	..		—	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..		..	..			2	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	..			1	—
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..			1	—
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases				..	..		5	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	..			4	—
All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..		—	7
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	—
							<hr/>	
All Causes	..	..	..				66	71

BIRTH RATES.

Year.	TETTENHALL.			England and Wales Birth Rate.
	Number of Births.	BIRTH RATE.		
		Crude.	Standardised.	
1955	164	15.2	—	15.0
1956	218	19.1	—	15.7
1957	207	16.79	—	16.1
1958	219	15.95	15.08	16.4
1959	210	15.60	13.57	16.5
1960	219	15.62	13.59	17.1
1961	248	16.42	13.95	17.4
1962	224	14.58	12.39	18.0
1963	197	12.68	13.19	18.2
1964	174	11.13	11.59	18.4

DEATH RATES.

Year.	TETTENHALL.			England and Wales Death Rate.
	Number of Deaths.	DEATH RATE.		
		Crude.	Standardised.	
1955	130	12.1	—	11.7
1956	114	9.9	—	11.7
1957	129	10.46	—	11.5
1958	109	8.44	10.13	11.7
1959	123	9.01	11.44	11.6
1960	153	10.91	13.64	11.5
1961	123	8.14	10.99	12.0
1962	140	9.11	12.20	11.9
1963	160	10.30	12.77	12.2
1964	137	8.77	10.87	11.3

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1964.

Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	3 to 4 weeks.	Total under one month.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total Deaths under one year.
Cerebral Birth Trauma ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ventricular Septal defects	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	3	1	—	—	4	1	1	—	—	6

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

Year.	TETTENHALL.			England and Wales Rate per 1,000 births.
	Births.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 births.	
1955	164	4	24.4	24.9
1956	218	5	22.94	23.8
1957	207	4	19.32	23.0
1958	219	1	4.57	22.5
1959	210	1	4.76	22.0
1960	219	9	41.09	21.7
1961	248	4	16.12	21.4
1962	224	4	17.85	21.4
1963	197	4	20.3	20.9
1964	174	6	34.48	20.0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Hospitals

All such are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board and are situate outside the Urban District. They are the hospitals of Wolverhampton, Dudley and Birmingham and are easily accessible.

Infectious Diseases

Provision for admission and treatment of such cases when necessary is made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Tuberculosis

Institutions are maintained by the Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis. The visiting of Tuberculosis patients in relation to their care and after-care is under the administration of the County Council. Chest Clinics are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton and several Sanatoria are available.

Venereal Diseases

Facilities for treatment are available at the special departments of the Hospitals serving the district.

Maternity

The Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home which forms part of Burton Road Hospital, and Wordsley Hospital, are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board. They provide accommodation for cases referred or booked from the Ante-Natal Clinics or by General Practitioners. Cases wishing to remain at home are delivered by the County Midwives who if so required can call for the obstetric assistance of a General Practitioner.

Midwives and Ante-Natal Clinics are provided and administered by the County Council.

Ambulance Service

This service is operated by the County Council, the Area Health Committee receiving in part delegated functions regarding the day to day running. The Area is served by two Ambulance Stations.

(a) Wordsley Ambulance Station, Stream Road, Wordsley.
Tel. No. Kingswinford 3306.

(b) Tettenhall Ambulance Station, The Green, Tettenhall,
Tel. No. Wolverhampton 51530.

Both stations provide a 24 hour service.

Additional Services

In accordance with Part III of the National Health Service Act, the following services are provided by the Local Health Authority, namely the County Council :—

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Health Visiting.

Home Nursing

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Prevention of Illness, care and after-care.

Domestic Help.

Mental Health Services.

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service in Stafford.

National Assistance Act, 1948

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention

These Acts deal with the care of aged and infirm persons incapable of looking after themselves ; and give powers to remove to a suitable hostel or institution if considered necessary.

It was not found necessary during the year to remove any person under Section 47 of the Act.

The situation those Acts are designed to deal with provokes thought as to the future, socially as well as economically, in so far as the recent advances in modern and antibiotic therapy and in preventive public health legislation and measures are prolonging and saving lives at the extremes of age, resulting in a national economic problem in respect of an increasing proportion of old people.

The **Domestic Help** service operated by the Area Health Committee does its best to meet the demands made for such services.

Recruitment of suitable women to maintain an effective strength would appear to be the difficulty.

No. of cases receiving help during the year :—

Domestic Help	..	..	..	..	..	55
Neighbourly Help	..	..	..	..	..	3

No. of Helps employed at end of year :—

Domestic Help	..	..	..	..	..	3
Neighbourly Help	..	..	..	..	..	3

The availability of medical equipment and comforts to invalids through Mrs. Walker and the British Red Cross detachment is also a valuable asset.

The **Old People's Clubs** which have been set up in the district also contribute to the welfare and happiness of the old people.

Meals-on-Wheels

The value of this service in providing just that extra amount of support to the frail and aged to enable them to continue to live in their own homes and at the same time ease the problem of finding suitable accommodation in old people's homes, cannot be overestimated.

I thank Mrs. Wright and her team of enthusiastic lady helpers for the service they are rendering to the district.

24 people were provided with two meals per week.

The Area Welfare Officer, Mr. R. C. Cox continues to give valuable support in securing institutional accommodation for those aged and infirm people who are incapable of looking after themselves.

The **District Nurses** continue to give their indispensable services in alleviating sickness and making illness more tolerable. Appreciation is extended to them.

Chiropody.

This much appreciated service is provided fortnightly at the local clinic on Tuesday mornings. Domiciliary visits are also made to those who are confined to the house.

Family Planning Clinic

A voluntary Committee to provide this valuable service has been established and holds sessions on Mondays, afternoon and evening. 63 patients have been given advice in the period from 19th June, 1964, when the Clinic opened until December, 1964. The total number of patients on the Register to date is 163.

THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The total number of notified cases of infectious disease was 84 as against 431 last year, exclusive of Tuberculosis.

Measles

57 cases as against 405 last year.

Scarlet Fever

2 cases, same as last year.

Whooping Cough

21 cases as against 9 last year.

Acute Pneumonia

4 cases as against 11 last year.

Cases admitted to Hospital

During the year two cases were admitted to hospitals as follows :—

MOXLEY HOSPITAL—

Mumps	1
---------------	---

PRESTWOOD CHEST HOSPITAL—

Tuberculosis	1
----------------------	---

Swabs and Specimens

Submitted to Public Health Laboratory :—

Cultures for Myco-Tuberculosis	12
--	----

General Measures

School notifications of infectious diseases are received by the Health Department and carefully studied for any features necessitating prompt action.

When desirable the schools are disinfected and terminal disinfection of premises and articles in affected households which have been exposed to infection carried out in all cases.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The County Council does not provide for Vaccination Centres against Smallpox, but arrangements can be made with the Medical Practitioners by those who wish themselves or their children vaccinated against Smallpox. Provision of such centres is now under consideration. Vaccination however is now being offered at Infant Welfare Clinics.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis is undertaken in the Child Welfare and School Clinics, while Immunisation Sessions in Schools provide for an increase in the immunity of the child population.

Administration and keeping of records of Vaccination and Immunisation are in the hands of the Area Office at Brierley Hill.

The following information has been supplied by the Brierley Hill Area Medical Officer.

Small Pox Vaccination

Primary Vaccination	Under 1	..	..	..	34
	1—4 years	..	..	..	47
	5—14 years	..	..	..	9
	15 and over	..	..	..	6
Re-vaccinations	1—4 years	..	..	..	—
	5—14 years	..	..	..	—
	15 and over	..	..	..	6

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Primary	..	..	..	..	..	..	359
Re-inforcing	..	..	..	..	..	..	676

Immunisation against Whooping Cough

Primary	..	..	..	..	..	..	163
Re-inforcing	..	..	..	..	..	..	37

Tetanus Inoculations

Primary	..	..	..	..	..	..	759
Re-inforcing	..	..	..	..	..	..	146

Poliomyelitis

Vaccination and immunisation sessions were held at all Clinics. Figures are not yet available.

No evening sessions were held during the year.

AGE-GROUP AND LOCALITY — DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
(EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1964.

DISEASE.	Total all ages.	SEX.		Under 1 year.	1 to 2 years.	2 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.	4 to 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	65 and over.	Age unknown.	Tettenhall.	Tettenhall Wood.	Compton.	Wightwick.	Finchfield.	Castlecroft.
		M.	F.																		
Measles ..	57	31	26	1	7	11	10	7	20	—	—	—	—	—	1	37	13	—	—	3	4
Whooping Cough ..	21	10	11	2	—	4	2	5	6	—	—	1	—	—	1	15	6	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
	84	43	41	3	7	15	12	12	28	1	2	2	—	—	2	56	21	—	—	3	4

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of new cases notified during the year was three pulmonary against two pulmonary in the year 1963. There was one new non-pulmonary case notified.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5— 9 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—14 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—19 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—24 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34 years ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—44 years ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64 years ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

Yearly Figures for Last Decade.

Year.	New Cases.		Deaths.		Death Rate.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1955	13	1	1	—	0.093	—
1956	15	—	—	—	—	—
1957	7	—	—	—	—	—
1958	3	—	—	1	—	0.077
1959	5	1	—	1	—	0.074
1960	8	—	—	—	—	—
1961	6	1	—	—	—	—
1962	5	—	1	—	0.065	—
1963	2	—	—	—	—	—
1964	3	1	—	—	—	—

Distribution of Pulmonary T.B. Cases on Register.

	<i>Districts.</i>				<i>Cases.</i>
Tettenhall	21
Tettenhall Wood	13
Castlecroft	12
Finchfield	11
Wightwick	1
Compton	5
Total	63

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

At the end of the year 1964 our Register counted 63 cases of Pulmonary and 4 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Pulmonary Cases

Number on Register at 31st December, 1963	..	..	65
Cases removed from Register	..	8	
New cases	..	..	3
*Inward Transfers	..	..	3
Number on Register at 31st December, 1964	..	63	

Non-Pulmonary Cases

Number on Register at 31st December, 1963	..	..	3
Cases removed from Register	..	—	
New cases	..	..	1
Inward Transfers	..	..	—
Number on Register at 31st December, 1964	..	4	

*From other districts :—

Ramsgate	..	..	..	1
Sheffield	..	..	..	1
Wolverhampton	..	..	..	1
			—	3
			—	

The prevention of the spread of this disease particularly when an active case is found in a household or in a school, is of the highest importance and here X-Ray examination and tuberculin-testing of contacts play their part and where indicated, B.C.G. vaccination offered.

The proximity of the Radiography Unit at New Cross Hospital may be taken advantage of by individuals when they think such a visit is advisable and the Referral Centre at the same location is available to local practitioners for diagnostic and progress information in respect of their patients.

I am indebted to Dr. Hutchison, Medical Director of the Unit, for a most comprehensive and informative report on the findings of the Unit during 1964.

“ The static 100 m.m. unit continued to concentrate on high risk groups, such as general practitioner referrals, contacts, ante-natal patients, tuberculin positive children, etc.”

“ General practitioner sessions continued to be well attended.”

“ Among general practitioner referrals, the active rate was 8.8 per thousand and 70% of those had a positive sputum.”

“ Mobile Surveys were concentrated on factories,” as being more likely to uncover unsuspected cases.

“ Public Surveys were not carried out unless specially indicated and requested by the Medical Officer of Health.”

From previous such surveys it was found that they were, on the whole, unproductive. A more rewarding catchment area was more likely in the factory population.

Tuberculosis among Asians.

“ A total of 3,433 were X-rayed. The active rate among those referred by general practitioners was 3.3%, representing 17 cases among 507 patients, and the overall rate for the total 9.3 per thousand.”

The active rate was higher among Pakistanis than Indians, being 10.8 and 9.3 per thousand respectively.

HOUSING

On this subject may I preface my observations by repeating my opening remarks in 1963.

“The health of a district can be said to revolve closely round the housing conditions of its inhabitants. The home is the family anchorage and it is there that health and outlook on life are influenced and nowhere is that more clearly demonstrated than when a family is rehoused from an unsatisfactory environment and adverse living conditions.”

With the policy of continuing the demolition of really unfit individual houses or effecting clearance areas, the standard of housing in the district is steadily rising.

When a reasonably fit house is drifting into disrepair through the neglect, reluctance or unwillingness of the owner to effect the necessary repairs, threatened action of making a Demolition Order or declaring a Clearance Area often results in undertakings being given to make the house or houses fit.

Clearance Areas generally effected under Compulsory Purchase Orders would appear to be the most satisfactory method of dealing with grouped unfit and obsolete properties.

When such action has been taken, no difficulty has been encountered in rehousing displaced families apart from personal problems as to meeting wishes in respect of locality or suitability of the accommodation offered.

Further details as to Demolition Orders and Clearance Areas are given in the Public Health Inspector's report.

As regards Improvement Grants, discretionary or standard, the number of owners taking advantage of them is not impressive. There are still houses which could well do with improvement or modernisation but unfortunately we appear to be failing to interest or attract the owners of such houses in sufficient numbers. The applicants for such grants are either owner-occupiers or owners wishing to improve the houses for relations.

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| (a) | Number of Discretionary Improvement Grants
during year ended 31st December, 1964 | 14 |
| (b) | Amount of Discretionary Improvement Grants
during year ended 31st December, 1964 | £3,290 |

(c)	Number of Standard Improvement Grants during the year ended 31st December, 1964	.. ..	1
(d)	Amount of Standard Improvement Grants during the year ended 31st December, 1964	.. ..	£87

To meet this situation the Housing Act, 1964, Part II has introduced legislation conferring powers and duties on local authorities to impose Compulsory Improvement of Dwellings to provide standard amenities.

Section 13(3) of the Act, states “ It shall be the duty of every local authority to cause an inspection of their district to be made from time to time with a view of ascertaining whether there is any area in the district which ought to be declared to be an improvement area.”

The Ministry are requesting regular returns of what we are doing. We must therefore, consider the making of improvement areas or declare that in this district there are no areas requiring improvement or suitable for such treatment.

The purpose of such improvement areas is to prevent the houses therein falling into such a state as to necessitate clearance action some time in the foreseeable future.

The Act is primarily built for an area in which there is a reasonable number of houses to justify the application of the Act ; and at the same time it must be noted that the Act requires that there is 50% of the houses in question lacking the desirable amenities in the area under consideration. (One must not be too precipitate in saying there are no such areas in the district.) Personally I do not think there would be much difficulty in sustaining such an opinion.

I am indebted to your Surveyor, Mr. Mason and your Housing Manager, Mr. Berrisford, for the undermentioned information.

Mr. Mason.

1.	Municipal Houses completed during 1964	..	54
2.	Private Houses completed during 1964	.. ..	270
3.	No housing estates were completed during the year		1

Mr. Berrisford

1.	No. of Council houses	.. ..	1,079	(1,057)
2.	No. of Council houses allotted to Wolverhampton Overspill	.. ..	131	(128)
3.	(a) Applicants with children in lodgings	.. ..	45	(49)
	(b) Childless couples in rooms	..	44	(33)
	(c) Applicants presently tenants of D.O. houses	.. ..	59	(55)
	(d) Applicants in occupation of a house other than condemned	..	128	(105)
	(e) Applicants for single bedroom flats	.. ..	20	(18)
	(f) Applicants for Aged Persons dwellings	.. ..	52	(40)
	Total number on Waiting List	..	348	(300)
4.	No. of Families rehoused during the year	.. ..	51	(54)
	(a) How many ^{No.} of those from Council houses	.. ..	6	(5)
	(b) No. from D.O. or condemned houses	.. ..	6	(18)
	(c) How many ^{No.} from general waiting list	.. ..	36	(26)
	(d) No. of Overspill tenants	..	3	(5)

(Numbers in brackets, 1963)

It will be noted from above figures that the number of aged persons seeking suitable accommodation has increased by twelve.

This would support the observation I made in 1963 when I said that statistics would appear to show that the expectation of life has increased and that therefore a higher proportion of elderly and possibly more infirm people can be expected in any local population making it advisable in planning new housing estates to bear this in mind and give a higher proportion of suitable accommodation to meet the situation in respect of the requirements of the elderly infirm.

It will also be noted that the total number on the general waiting list has increased.

The housing position is still a difficult one, aggravated by limited Council house building resulting from the lack of suitable sites. Building up into the air, that is to say the provision of flatted accommodation would appear to be the answer to economising on sites.

Letting of Council Houses.

I appreciate that the shortage of available accommodation to meet the demand for re-housing is the crux of the situation when I come to asking from time to time that special consideration be given to the rehousing of cases on medical grounds, apart from the length of time on the waiting list.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Sanitary Inspection

The systematic inspection of the district has been carried out in an efficient manner. Details are given in the report of the Health Inspector.

The general sanitary conditions of the district are satisfactory and there were no cases of disease or ill-health attributable to insanitary conditions.

It is satisfactory to report there have been no cases of food poisoning.

Complaints in respect of unfit or contaminated food were infrequent and it was not found necessary to institute proceedings.

As regards ice-cream and failure to reach grades I or II standard can usually be traced to insufficient care of serving utensils or containers. This failure can usually be overcome by resort to pre-packed ice-cream.

In respect of this problem of food hygiene as a whole, talks to food-handlers no doubt are made by your inspector and may serve a useful purpose but perhaps more important would be the examination in detail of the actual food handling techniques practised.

Water Supply

The Urban District is supplied by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking.

The population supplied from the mains in the district is 15,620. Of the houses in the district, 4,962 obtain water direct from the mains, and three houses have a well supply. These houses are situated at a considerable distance from the mains and connection to the Wolverhampton supply has proved to be uneconomical. Samples taken from them during the year for bacteriological examination proved satisfactory.

I am indebted to Mr. W. C. Johnson, M.I.C.E., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.W.E., Water Engineer and Manager, for the following information :—

- (i) The water supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.
- (ii) The water supplied is not plumbo-solvent.
- (iii) There has been no known contamination of the water supply subsequent to leaving the works.

The water going into supply contains roughly equal amounts of treated river water and well water. Fluoride values fall within the range of 0.01—0.11 p.p.m. (as F.).

Sampling continues to conform to the standards set by the World Health Organisation. The reservoirs, tanks, re-pumping stations, mains and distributing system are examined and sampled on a usual three-weekly rota.

The two open reservoirs at Tettenhall and the raw River Worfe water are examined quantitatively for algae.

Number of Samples examined in 1964

(a) Bacteriological	..	..	..	..	..	2,531
(b) Chemical	..	..	..	..	..	775
(c) Biological	..	..	..	..	..	191
(d) Radiological	..	..	..	..	..	—
Total						3,497

No radiological examinations were carried out owing to a fault in the recording apparatus. Routine examinations will recommence in January, 1965.

Of the samples bacteriologically examined, I calculate that approximately 98% were free from Coli-organisms per 100 ml.

As regards chemical examinations, since the waters supplied within the Undertaking's area vary in chemical nature, one from another, and in many cases are mixed in varying proportions, attention has been focussed almost entirely on the water as supplied to the consumer.

In perusing the Report one cannot but feel that the Company recognises the responsible position it holds in relation to the health of the districts it supplies. To ensure this it has made use of all technical, bacteriological and chemical advancements in the treatment, pumping and distribution of the water.

I am satisfied that the water supplied to the urban district is of a very high standard in respect of purity and the steps and precautions taken to ensure same all embracing.

Sewage Purification.

The sewage treatment works at Trescott operated satisfactorily throughout 1964 without any major problems.

The total volume of sewage treated during the year was 258.7 million gallons or a daily average of 709,800 gallons. (This is only a 1% increase on the figure for the previous year.) The 'dry weather flow' (D.W.F.) delivered to the plant was 596,000 gallons per day. The design D.W.F. is 618,000 gallons per day. The quantity of settled storm sewage discharged to the Smestow Brook was 2.242 million gallons.

Analytical results of the final effluent obtained during 1964 were as follows :—

(all results in parts per million)

Test	Tettenhall U.D.C. by Laboratory at Works.	Staffs. C.C. by County Analyst.	
	July—December, 1964	1964	1963
A. Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days ..	16.5	13.7	15.3
B. Suspended Solids Permanganate Value 4 hours	14	22.5	22
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	12.7	12.0	13.8
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	3.28	2.18	4.98
Nitric Nitrogen	1.73	1.74	1.87
	37.5	38.5	32.4

The results obtained in the work's laboratory are averages of weekly samples which are composite samples taken every hour in proportion to the rate of flow. The county analysts' results are on monthly "snap" samples. The county results for 1964 show a slight improvement on those for 1963 and the accepted maximum River Board's standards of 20 p.p.m. and 30 p.p.m. for A and B respectively were achieved.

Sludge Disposal

The removal of liquid sludge by the department's own tanker vehicle continued throughout the year with only a few minor problems which were easily solved.

The total volume removed was 1,692,000 gallons of which 644,000 gallons were spread on farm land and the remainder went to our own land at Blackbrook.

Odour, associated with sludge, produced no problems at Trescott and Wightwick areas.

On annual inspection visit by your Drainage and Highways Committee I am sure they were much impressed by the efficiency with which the supervision of the works is carried out by the manager, Mr. Drake.

Danescourt Lawn Cemetery—Interments

Mr. F. S. Pratt, Cemetery Superintendent, has supplied me with the following information :—

Period 1st January—31st December, 1964—

Adult Males	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Adult Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Children under 10 years of age :							
Males	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Stillborn	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Total							56
<hr/>							
Total Interments to 31st December, 1964	..	..	..	..	..	..	264

43 Memorial plaques were placed in the Cemetery during the year, making a total of 174.

During the year 1,000 yards of pathways were tar-sprayed.

Various shrubs and shrub roses were planted in the border.

A section of the coppice was cleared, filled in and turfed. This work will continue.

Mortuary

The number admitted to the mortuary during the year was 28, distributed as follows :—

					1964		1963
Tettenhall	..	..	..	..	13	..	17
Codsall	..	..	..	..	3	..	8
Wombourn	..	..	..	..	7	..	4
Oaken	..	..	..	..	—	..	2
Bilbrook	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Brewood	..	..	..	..	—	..	2
Penn..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
Trysull	..	..	..	..	—	..	2
Swindon	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
					<hr/> 28 <hr/>	..	<hr/> 40 <hr/>

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

I submit my report for the year 1964 and in so doing attempt to give a picture of the main activities of the Department.

The work of a Public Health Inspector is very varied and covers most aspects of human environment whether at work or in the home. It is difficult to present a report without recourse to dry figures and efforts have been made to enliven the information with comment on the associated problems.

The work has basically one idealistic aim, to contribute to the improvements in general health and improved standards of living, whether this be in housing, the food we eat, the air we breathe or the places in which we work.

Much steady work has been done during the year in respect of Food Hygiene and Housing. Sometimes, however, one feels particularly in respect of the latter, that one's efforts are very humble and snail-paced, but the results over the years do indicate definite progress.

Two realistic pieces of legislation came into force during the year under review, the Housing Act, 1964, which opens the way for the compulsory improvement of houses and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, which deals with welfare, health and safety in offices and shops.

It becomes increasingly difficult for Public Health Inspectors to keep abreast of the increasing amount of the new legislation they administer. It is essential that he should have a comprehensive grasp of all the essential requirements, because it is invariably the Inspector who has to give the initial judgment to the public on many of the activities of the Local Authority.

In the department we try to give prompt attention to all complaints made by the public as well as the carrying out of routine inspection of the district in accordance with legislation. We try to achieve our objectives by informal action whether in the shape of works or the raising of standards, and the small proportion of statutory proceedings taken does indicate some measure of the success in the work of the department. Legal proceedings in some instances are essential but more often than not a better standard can be obtained by informal processes and negotiations with owners, occupiers or management.

I am most grateful to all the staff for their co-operation and to the Chairman and Members for their support on matters of policy.

HOUSING

Details of action in the course of the year by the Public Health Committee, acting for the Council under delegated powers, on individual premises following Official Representation.

7, 9, 11, 13, Lower Green.	Closing Orders, January, 1964.
19, Love Lane, Stockwell End.	Closing Order, February, 1964.
34, Finchfield Road West.	Demolition Order, February, 1964
11, 13, 15, Grove Lane.	Reported to Public Health Committee, July, 1964, no action taken.
28, Castlecroft Road.	Proceedings commenced for the making of Closing Order.
34, 42, Grange Road.	Report to Public Health Committee, November, 1964. Informal proceedings to purchase proceeded with.
18, 24, Mount Road.	Report to Public Health Committee, November, 1964. No action taken.

Houses Demolished during the year.

12, 14, 16, 18, 20, Oak Hill.
 57, 59, Woodthorne Road South.
 29, 31, Limes Road.
 1, 3, Nursery Walk.
 8, 10, Oak Hill.

Houses Closed during the year

19, Love Lane, Stockwell End.

Houses reconditioned following formal Housing Act action

78, Wood Road.

At the end of the year under review the following properties on which Individual Orders were operative were still occupied :—

<i>Address.</i>	<i>Date of Order.</i>	<i>No. Occupied.</i>
3, 5, School Road	January, 1958	2
1, 2, 3, Wightwick Leys	January, 1960	3
60—72, The Holloway	November, 1960	4
Lock House, Compton	June, 1960	1
23—25, Wood Road	December, 1960	2
43—51, Mount Road	December, 1961	1
1, 2, 3, West View Cottages ..	July, 1961	2
19—29, Mount Road	December, 1961	2
78—82, Wood Road	March, 1962	1
18, Manor Street	December, 1962	1
20, Mount Road	December, 1962	1
12—18, School Road	March, 1963	3
33—39, Bridgnorth Road	September, 1963	2
3—9, Church Road	October, 1963	4
7—13, Lower Green	January, 1964	4
34, Finchfield Road West	February, 1964	1
Total		34

Bridgnorth Road Clearance Area Nos. 81 to 143, Bridgnorth Road, Compton

A Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed on this property after the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held a Public Enquiry on the 18th February, 1964.

The total number of houses involved was thirty-two.

Manor Street, Limes Road, Proposed Clearance Area

The detailed inspections of the houses affected by this scheme were made in the latter part of the year with a view to making the Official Representation early in 1965.

Fifteen houses are affected by this scheme.

Housing General

The first major piece of legislation to enforce the improvement of houses came into operation during 1964.

This requires a house to be improved to a full standard with the following amenities :—

- (a) a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom ;
- (b) a wash hand basin ;
- (c) a hot water supply which must be connected to the bath or shower, wash hand basin and sink ;
- (d) a water closet which must be in or close to the dwelling ;
- (e) satisfactory facilities for storing food.

A reduced standard is also allowed for in certain properties when the above are not reasonably practicable.

Action to secure improvements can be initiated in several ways. The local authority may declare an area to be an improvement area if it is satisfied that the area contains dwellings lacking one or more standard amenities. But it must be practicable to improve at least one half of the dwelling so deficient to the full standard, and after improvement they must have a life of at least 15 years.

A tenant of a dwelling outside an improvement area can ask the authority to enforce the provision of amenities either to the full or reduced standard.

In order to assess the number of the houses within the area requiring modern facilities a survey of the district was started at the end of the year.

The clearance of sub-standard houses has been continued ; the original 1954 programme has almost been completed with the exception of the Manor Street, Limes Road and High Street schemes which are allied to redevelopment and several individual houses scattered throughout the district.

Of the later programme in respect of sub-standard houses a further twenty have been dealt with, but 87 are still outstanding from this programme.

Due to some of the difficulties associated with the clearance and redevelopment of sites of condemned properties, reports were submitted on some of the sub-standard properties where redevelopment would be a practical proposition. The Council declined that any formal action be taken to acquire the sites.

Some difficulty was experienced during the year in carrying out first aid repairs to remedy dangerous roofs and chimney stack at two condemned properties.

Deterioration in houses which have been the subject of Housing Act Orders, is a feature which has to be kept under regular observation until demolition can be proceeded with, particularly where houses are void and vandalism takes place.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

The inspection of houses within the district which have been split into several units of accommodation has been continued and notices served for the repair, improvement of amenities and provision of fire escape facilities.

The five premises inspected were all of a good residential standard, well managed, with good standard of amenities and no overcrowding.

No legal proceedings were found to be necessary.

The New Housing Act of 1964 strengthens the law relating to houses in multi-occupation and gives an easier type of control.

Overcrowding.

No precise cases of legal overcrowding were found during the year.

Three families were reported on, who were living in overcrowded conditions, in parts of houses, where the actual tenants were related by marriage.

The legal yardstick of overcrowding is not now acceptable to the majority of the public. The generally accepted standards *are* on the number of bedrooms available in a house.

Improvement Grants

The sum of £3,290 was paid in Discretionary Improvement Grants during the year. A further sum of £87 0s. 0d. was paid in Standard Improvement Grants.

The works resulted in the improvement of fifteen houses.

Moveable Dwellings

Only two dwellings are approved for permanent occupation within the district. These are sited in the Finchfield area.

Other moveable dwellings can be found in the area particularly during the winter months, but these are unoccupied and are only being garaged.

Early in the year 3 caravans were found stationed in the Deepmere area, then more than 25 stationed themselves in the same area nearer to the district boundary with a considerable number of motor vehicles. With the co-operation of the local police and other council staff they were persuaded to leave the site. The field was left littered with considerable waste and scrap material. This minor invasion of the district, did demonstrate the need for immediate and co-operative effort by the Local Authority and Police to prevent this type of unauthorised occupation of land.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no premises of this type within the district.

Rent Act

No formal work was carried out under this Act. It is regrettable that the public do not make use of this legislation and its provisions for the repair of houses and renewal of fittings.

Sanitary Accommodation and Drainage

All the houses throughout the district are now provided with separate modern type sanitary conveniences, with the exception of thirteen which have tipper or pail lavatories and four other houses share two external conveniences.

Of the seventeen houses, one is already condemned, six in High Street will be demolished for redevelopment in 1966, two sharing accommodation are in Manor Street and Limes Road proposals for redevelopment. It is anticipated that action under the Housing Act will be taken in the very near future in respect of the other two houses sharing accommodation in Mount Road.

Improved sanitary facilities were provided at one factory and a notice to provide alternative sanitary conveniences in another factory in the Compton area was still outstanding at the end of the year. This work was held up owing to difficulties over the lease on the property.

Legislation for sanitary conveniences in Factories, Shops and Offices requires the provision of natural or mechanical ventilation to the W.C. and to the space adjoining the convenience. I think it is regrettable that this recognised and accepted practice is being neglected in some domestic premises.

Some difficulty was experienced at a house in Keepers Lane in maintaining the septic tank drainage system in working order, without carrying out very expensive works to provide a completely new system. It is problems of this type which occur occasionally that stress the need for the provision of sewers in those parts of the district which lack these facilities. The work of clearing septic tank systems when they become overloaded is a most unpleasant task for workmen and occupiers. This type of drainage system to houses still requires elimination in Keepers Lane, Grove Lane, Pattingham Road, Wergs Road and Ash Hill.

Thirty-seven informal and two statutory notices were served in respect of drainage defects.

Watercourses

The Smestow is the main watercourse in the district and it cannot be denied that it does at times become polluted particularly after heavy rainfall. It does appear that both in and out of this area the stream takes considerable storm water overflow from sewers. In normal times the stream appears to run clear and free from pollution.

The Penk appears free from pollution.

The canal which runs through the valley from Aldersley to Wightwick is not now used for commercial traffic, its use being mainly limited to pleasure craft.

FOOD INSPECTION AND HYGIENE

Meat Inspection

There is only one slaughterhouse now in use and 100 per cent inspection was maintained. The following were inspected :—

108 Cattle.

895 Sheep.

571 Pigs.

Outside of trimmings and strippings the following were condemned :—

208 lbs. of offals.

25 lbs. of meat.

The only evidence of Tuberculosis was glandular, found in nine pigs heads.

No evidence was found of cysticercosis.

Unsound food is disposed of by incineration or by delivery to the digester plant at Wolverhampton Abattoir.

During the year two metal wall food racks have been fixed in the lairage and the slaughterhouse walls tiled to replace the painted cement rendered wall surfaces, other parts of the premises have been repainted throughout.

The work in the slaughterhouse is carried out in a humane and hygienic manner.

Slaughter of Animals.

Seven licences to slaughter animals were renewed during the year in accordance with the 1958 Act.

Food Inspection

The following articles were condemned during the year :—

73 lbs. Beef.

53 lbs. Veal.

7 lbs. Pork Sausage.
 1 tin Ham.
 2 tins Smoked Salmon.
 1 tin La Terrine du Chef.
 3 tins Cucumber.
 26 jars Salad.
 1 tin Vegetable juice.
 10 packets Cheese.
 3 tins Ravioli.
 1 lb. 2 ozs. Grapefruit.
 6 lbs. 12 ozs. Pineapple.
 1 tin Fruit pie filling.
 3 tins Pineapple juice.
 6 tins Fondue.
 1 tin Water Chestnuts.

The following gives a brief summary of the complaints made to the Department by members of the public concerning food not of the prescribed nature, substance or quality.

Macaroon Tart containing a small amount of carbonaceous matter. Warning letter sent, action taken in factory to avoid a recurrence.

Portion of veal, ham and egg pie with a slight mould growth. Some doubt as to basic cause of mould, no action taken.

Mint sweet with piece of wood floor chipping in substance. Advised manufacturers and no further action taken.

Small tin of Pork Luncheon Meat found to be of poor quality. Passed to adjoining authority and whole consignment withdrawn from sale.

Portion of Battenburg cake, found only to be a misplaced cake mixture, reported to manufacturers.

Milk, Ice-Cream and Ice-Lollies

The only milk supplied throughout the area is bottled designated and is supplied from the large dairies with heat treatment plants. The majority is retailed from vehicles and the remainder from grocers' shops.

The following table summarises the Public Health Laboratory Service reports on the testing of milk samples.

Designation.	No. of samples submitted.	Phos- phatase.		Turbidity		Methylene Blue.	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Tuberculin Tested ..	3	—	—	—	—	3	—
T.T. (Pasteurised) ..	37	36	1	—	—	36	1
Pasteurised	2	2	—	—	—	1	1
Sterilised	14	—	—	14	—	—	—

Samples of ice-cream were taken from hotels, vehicles and shops with the following results :—

Ice-cream

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Soft</i>	<i>Bulk</i>	<i>Hard</i>
1	4 ..	10 ..	4
2	— ..	3 ..	—
4	— ..	2 ..	—

Ice-Lolly

Three samples gave the following results :—

pH 3.1
pH 2.8
pH 3.6

Cream

Samples of cream gave the following results :—

Grade 1	..	..	..	—
„ 2	..	..	..	1
„ 3	..	..	..	—
„ 4	..	..	..	1

Inspections were made of the premises and vehicles from which these commodities are dispensed for the purpose of checking the conditions of the equipment, utensils, storage and general cleanliness. All unsatisfactory results are notified to the producer and retailer.

Particular attention was paid to the hotel kitchen premises from which ice-cream is served with meals and advice was given on the handling and storage of bulk ice-cream.

Food Premises

The following table gives details of the various types of food premises within the district :—

<i>Type of Business</i>	<i>No.</i>
Canteens and premises where meals are prepared ..	25
Fried Fish Shops	1
Butchers	12
Shops selling sweets and confectionery	11
Grocers and Greengrocers	40
Chemists	5
Licensed premises	23
Off-Licence premises	6
Slaughterhouses	1
Premises registered for the manufacture of sausage or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	6
Shops selling milk	24
Shops retailing ice-cream	39
Licensed Game Dealer	1

More regular inspection of food premises has been maintained throughout the year with a view to improving the general standards of hygiene. Particular attention has been paid to the handling of bulk ice-cream and the rotation of food stocks.

Circulars were distributed to all food premises on storage and handling of Meat Pies, and recommendations on the practice of cleansing of premises, utensils, slicing machines, storage of food stuffs and suggestions for personnel.

It is impossible to provide a basis for assessing the success or failure of these activities, but it is only by regular visits and constant vigilance that good standards can be maintained and improved.

Licensed Premises

A survey of the public houses throughout the area led to recommendations on standards to be adopted for all licensed premises.

The standards suggested included improvements to glass washing and hand washing facilities, provision of internal toilet facilities, shelving, cellars and ventilation.

A start was made on the implementation of these standards at the end of the year.

Beer glass swabs have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for the purpose of assessing the standard of glass washing in licensed premises with the following results:—

		<i>Colony count per utensil swab</i>	<i>E. coli</i>
49	..	Less than 100 swab	Nil in 1 ml.
1	..	2940	„
1	..	2000	„
1	..	940	„
1	..	450	„
1	..	400	„
2	..	360	„
1	..	250	„
2	..	200	„
3	..	150	„
1	..	130	„
1	..	Swamped with aerobic spore bearing.	Non faceal present in 1 ml.

All unsatisfactory results are reported to the occupiers and the breweries, and where necessary instructions have been given on glass washing, drying and storage.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

I am indebted to the Medical Officer of Health of the County Council for the following information regarding samples of food taken in Tettenhall.

General Foods

Number of samples taken..	..	..	..	..	21
Number of samples genuine	..	..	..	..	17
Number of samples adulterated	..	..	..	..	4

Classification

Pork Sausage containing preservative (3 samples).	Littel Scarlet Preserve.
Mexican Dish Chile Con-Carn.	Tawny Marmalade.
Bolognese Sauce.	Roasting Spice.
Fresh Chestnut Puree.	Seasoning for Braising Beef.
Sliced Roast Beef with Gravy.	Vodka and Lime.
Steak and Kidney Pie.	Sterilised Milk.
Vanaspati.	Pasteurised Milk.
Fluffy Cooked Rice.	C.I. Pasteurised T.T. Milk.
Napolitan Sauce.	T.T. Pasteurised Homogonised Milk.
Frying Oil.	

Particulars of Adulterated samples.

81 C/H—Pork Sausage containing preservative—Formal.

11.5% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.	Explanation accepted.
---	-----------------------

85 C/I—Vanaspati—Informal Sample.

Claims that vitamins are present so if sold prepacked should declare quantities of vitamins present.	Label to be amended when present stock is disposed of.
--	--

72 C/L—Roasting Spice—Informal Sample.

Contains Herbs and Spices and so should have appropriate list of ingredients.	Labels now include list of ingredients.
---	---

73 C/L—Seasoning for Braising Beef—Informal.

Contains Dried Onions, Herbs and Spices and so should have appropriate list of ingredients.	Labels now include list of ingredients.
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SHOPS ACTS, AND OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

Within the district there are 120 shops, the majority of which retail food ; there are also 23 fully licensed and 6 off-licence premises.

The effect of the Shops Act has been greatly altered by the coming into operation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act during the year under review. This legislation provides new standards of health, safety and welfare for employees comparable to those given by Factory Act legislation. This has been long awaited and should be of considerable benefit to all workpeople in shops and offices.

No statutory action was found to be necessary under the Shops Act, though informal action was necessary to bring to the notice of shopkeepers the requirements for Sunday trading, half day closing and the employment of young persons.

Some change of legislation appears to be necessary in respect of half-day closing, late night opening of shops and in respect of the commodities which can be retailed on Sundays.

The preliminary work under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act involved the registration of all the premises affected ; then a start was made on the inspections of the premises. It is hoped that the necessary inspection work will be completed in 1965.

Ninety premises were registered under the Act.

The twenty premises inspected before the end of the year were shops in Finchfield and Castlecroft. It was found necessary in all cases to make requests for certain of the provisions to be complied with. Some elementary requirements of the occupier for items such as heating, first aid equipment and certain structural requirements of owners.

No notifiable accidents were reported during the year.

Hairdressing Shops

Following a report on these establishments the Council adopted bye-laws to control premises, furniture, fitting, clothing, equipment, cleanliness of personnel, cleansing of equipment and sterilisation of instruments.

CLEAN AIR

Approval in principle was given by the Council to the making of a Smoke Control Area in the western part of the district should there be a possibility of development. The area involved is predominantly green belt in character and it was considered essential that any new development should be smokeless.

Consideration was also given to the height of a new chimney for a boiler installation at a new educational building on the boundary of the district.

Some concern can be felt at the way in which local education authorities are using the exemption from building bye-laws to avoid building chimneys at new schools of adequate height from the atmospheric pollution point of view. The height of chimneys is controlled by local authorities by means of Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, and the principles involved are supported by the memorandum on chimney heights issued for the guidance of local authorities.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

This work is carried out by Mr. A. Lockley on a part time basis for the Department and is done in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations.

Treatments were carried out for rats or mice at 135 houses. Twenty-two other treatments were completed at business premises, schools, building sites and Council properties.

No major infestations were recorded during the year.

Test baiting of sewer manholes throughout the district was carried out; in all 113 manholes in the foul and surface water systems were baited. Particular attention was paid to manholes in and around building sites and suspect areas where there is a history of complaints associated with defective drains. No takes were recorded in any of the 113 manholes.

Considerable research is being carried out on more effective means of rodent control and in the not too distant future it is hoped to eliminate this pest from urban areas.

Simple common sense measures, however, on building sites, such as not leaving drains open for weeks on end, sealing off old connections and service pipes and clearing away waste food, and the cessation of the practice of the scattering of food for birds would be of considerable assistance in this work.

Treatments for the elimination of wasps at 19 premises was completed.

Other treatments were given for ants and cockroaches.

Advice is given on the treatment of insect infestations to the public where necessary and insecticidal powder distributed on request for minor treatments.

DISINFECTION

Disinfection of books is carried out as required for the Tettenhall Wood and Finchfield Libraries following cases of infectious disease in the borrowing household. Household effects are also treated on request.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

No action was found necessary during the year.

Agricultural Act, 1956 (Health Provisions)

No action was found necessary during the year.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

No premises are licensed for the sale of pet animals.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Reg. 1953

No action was taken during the year.

Miscellaneous

Among other activities of the Department, were the investigation of complaints regarding the possibility of contamination from the paint on a child's cot and the deterioration of the enamel lining to 2 kettles. Also the supervision of an exhumation and re-interment at a local cemetery.

ROUTINE INSPECTION WORK.

Summary of the inspection work carried out during the year is given in the following table:—

Type of Premises Inspected.	Number of Inspections.
Water, Drainage and Services	153
Refuse	41
Rodent Control	473
Repairs to Premises	159
Food Premises	243
Meat Inspection	175
Infectious Disease	17
Shops other than Food Premises	85
Factories	28
Housing Act.. .. .	291
Clean Air Act	35
Miscellaneous	157
Total	1,857

General Information regarding Notices Served during the year.

Form of Notice.	No. Served.	Premises.	Defects.
Informal :			
General Sanitary Defects	93	125	155
Statutory :			
Defects	12	34	52

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959.

Part 1 of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of		
		Inspections. (3)	Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	18	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	8	—	—
Total	27	28	2	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars. (1)	No. of Cases in which Defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..					
Other offences against the Act including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	1	—	—	—

Part VIII.

Section 110.			Section 111.		
No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c). (1)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (2)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (3)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises. (4)	Notices served (5)	Prose- cutions. (6)
1	—	—	—	—	—

E. BARNES,

Public Health Inspector.

